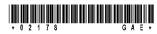


General Assembly

House Resolution No. 5

February Session, 2016

LCO No. 2178



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by: (GAE)

RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE SEVENTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONNECTICUT-TAIWAN SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP.

Resolved by this House:

- 1 WHEREAS, the state of Connecticut and the Republic of China
- 2 (Taiwan) have enjoyed a long history of friendship and have
- 3 maintained the fruitful sister-state relationship encompassing cultural,
- 4 educational and economic exchanges for many years; and
- 5 WHEREAS, the state of Connecticut exported 122.9 million dollars'
- 6 worth of products to Taiwan in 2014, making Taiwan one of the major
- 7 foreign markets for Connecticut, and will keep further strengthening
- 8 our economic ties; and
- 9 WHEREAS, as a full-fledged democracy and robust free market
- 10 economy, Taiwan shares with the United States the principles and
- 11 values that provide a strong foundation for mutually beneficial
- 12 relations; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Taiwan's inclusion in the United States Visa Waiver
- 14 Program on November 1, 2012, allows Taiwan and the United States,

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- including the sister-state of Connecticut, to develop closer relations and to witness rapid growth in all areas of bilateral development; and
- WHEREAS, Taiwan is one of the strongest democratic allies of the
- 18 United States in Asia and spares no effort to maintain peace and
- 19 prosperity in East Asia as evidenced by the East China Sea Peace
- 20 Initiative proposed by President Ma Ying-jeou; and
- 21 WHEREAS, the United States has assisted Taiwan in participating
- in the World Health Assembly (WHA) as an observer in 2009, and will
- 23 continue supporting Taiwan's participation in other United Nations-
- 24 affiliated organizations such as the International Civil Aviation
- 25 Organization (ICAO) and the United Nations Framework Convention
- on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the International Criminal Police
- 27 Organization; and
- 28 WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan share a long-term and
- 29 close economic relationship, including 67.4 billion dollars in bilateral
- 30 trade in 2014, making Taiwan the tenth largest trading partner of the
- 31 United States; and
- WHEREAS, in order to strengthen the bilateral trade relations with
- 33 the United States, the government of the Republic of China (Taiwan)
- 34 has expressed its wish to participate in the Trans-Pacific Strategic
- 35 Economic Partnership Agreement (TTP) and to sign a Bilateral
- 36 Investment Agreement (BIA) and a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with
- 37 the United States in the near future and the United States and the state
- 38 of Connecticut will benefit from Taiwan's inclusion in the TTP, which
- 39 will increase United States' exports by over 50 billion dollars; and
- WHEREAS, the Connecticut House of Representatives wishes to
- 41 congratulate President-elect Tsai Ing-wen and Vice President-elect
- 42 Chen Chien-jen on their victory in Taiwan's presidential election on
- 43 January 16, 2016 and to welcome Dr. Tsai as the first female president
- of Taiwan in its history.

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- 45 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut House 46 of Representatives pause in its deliberations to recognize the 47 seventeenth anniversary of the Connecticut-Taiwan Sister-State 48 Relationship, and reiterate its support of a closer economic and trade 49 partnership between the United States and the Republic of China 50 (Taiwan); and
- 51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerk of the House of 52 Representatives cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to the 53 President of the Republic of China (Taiwan) through the Taipei 54 Economic and Cultural Office in New York.

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